Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANJUL 01259 081133Z ACTION EA-12

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANJUL 1259

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR KN KS GA

SUBJ: NORTH KOREAN ENVOY URGES U.S. ATTENTION TO KIM IL-SUNG LE MONDE INTERVIEW

- 1. WHILE HEADS OF BANJUL DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS WERE ASSEMBLED ON TARMAC SEPT 5 TO GREET PRESIDENT JAWARA ON HIS RETURN FROM LAGOS, NORTH KOREAN CHARGE CHAN DO HO, WHO WAS POSITIONED ALONGSIDE ACTING US CHARGE, INITIATED EXTENDED MONOLOGUE ON AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD KOREA.
- 2. AFTER CONFIRMING THAT HE WAS ADDRESSING AMERICAN CHARGE, DPRK ENVOY REMARKED THAT OUR COUNTRIES WERE NOT FRIENDS DUE TO CONTINUED PRESENCE OF US FORCES IN KOREA. PERIOD OF 4-5 YEARS FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL WAS TOO LONG AND US NAVAL AND AIR FORCE PERSONNEL MUST ALSO LEAVE. PRESENT US POLICY THREATENED NUCLEAR WAR. HE SAID KOREANS ACUTELY REMEMBERED DEATHS AMERICANS HAD INFLICTED, AND HIS COUNTRYMEN WOULD FIGHT DOGGEDLY IF ANOTHER WAR CAME. US AT PRESENT WAS LIKE INTRUDER WHO CAME INTO SOMEONE'S HOME BRANDISHING PISTOL, BUT IF US FORCES WERE WITHDRAWN, KOREA AND US COULD BE FRIENDS AND US WOULD NO LONGER BE CONDEMNED BY WORLD. TWICE, DPRK CHARGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BANJUL 01259 081133Z

URGED CAREFUL EXAMINATION OF KIM IL-SUNG'S JUNE LE MONDE INTERVIEW (WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN LOCAL PRESS IN EARLY AUGUST), EXPLAINING THAT IT REPRESENTED COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT OF DPRK POSITION.

3. AS HE SPOKE, NORTH KOREAN VASCILLATED BETWEEN BELLIGERENCE AND AWKWARD ATTEMPTS AT CONSPIRATORIAL FRIENDLINESS. CON-

VERSATION TOOK PLACE WITHIN FULL VIEW OF NEARBY DIPLOMATS IN RECEIVING LINE, INCLUDING LIBYAN AMBASSADOR, WHO LISTENED ATTENTIVELY.

4. ACTING CHARGE RESPONDED THAT, WHILE US HAD ANNOUNCED TROOP WITHDRAWAL PLANS, WE WERE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO MUTUAL SECURITY AGREEMENTS WITH GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF KOREA WHICH REPRESENTED OVER 30 MILLION PERSONS, AND SUGGESTED THAT PERMANENT SOLUTION SHOULD BE PURSUED THROUGH NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE TWO KOREAS.

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